

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-14 are pending. By this Amendment, Claim 9 is amended. Applicants respectfully submit no new material is presented herein.

**Claims Allowed and Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants respectfully appreciate and acknowledge the indication by the Examiner that Claims 1-8 and 10-14 are allowed and that Claim 9 would be allowable if amended to recite the feature "wherein operating said coupling device adjusts the air gap between the fixed core and the movable core." In this regard, Applicants have amended Claim 9 to recite the subject matter indicated as placing the claim in condition for allowance.

**Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102**

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,422,546 to Nemoto et al. (hereinafter "Nemoto"). Applicants respectfully submit the rejection is rendered moot as Claim 9 has been amended herein to include and recite subject matter indicated by the Office Action as placing the claim in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.


**Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of the outstanding rejection, allowance of Claims 1-14, and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability are respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event that the filing of this paper is not deemed timely, Applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any petition fee for the extension of time and any other fees that may be required in relation to this paper can be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing Docket No. 107348-00405.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
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